



Amdt. Dated: July 31, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2003

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 14 as shown below. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A filtering device for passing a fluid in a body vessel defined by a wall and for blocking the passage through the vessel of emboli, comprising:
- a filtering portion constructed to be disposed in the vessel including a directional member made from a pliable material having properties of blocking the passage of the fluid and the emboli and being expandable by the fluid flow in the vessel to maintain its outer periphery against the vessel wall in order to provide a seal against the passage of the fluid and the emboli through the pliable material, and
- a filtering member attached to and disposed interiorly of the directional member and made from a material providing for the passage of the fluid and for the blocking of the emboli, the filtering member being expandable by the expansion of the directional member.

2. (Original) The filtering device of claim 1, wherein:
- the filtering member is made from a material selected from a group consisting of blood filter material and a braided/woven biocompatible material.

3. (Original) The filtering device of claim 1, further including:

a catheter portion having a shaft,
the filtering portion being disposed on the shaft at an interior position on
the filtering member.

4. (Original) The filtering device of claim 1, wherein
the directional member is disposed at an acute angle relative to the vessel
wall.

5. (Original) The filtering device of claim 2, wherein:
the directional member is elongated to be disposed at its outer end against
the vessel wall,
the directional member is disposed relative to the filtering member to direct
to the filtering member the fluid and the emboli received by the directional member,
a catheter portion having a shaft is provided, and
the filtering portion is disposed on the shaft at an interior position on the
filtering member.

6. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 5, wherein:
the filtering portion is disposed at an acute angle relative to the vessel wall
when deployed.

7. (Original) The filtering device of claim 5, wherein:

the catheter portion includes an outer sheath which covers the filtering portion until the filtering portion is to be deployed, the filtering portion being at least partially retractable into the sheath after the filtering portion traps and collects emboli in the vessel.

8. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 7, wherein:

c) the directional member has an inlet opening and the catheter portion includes a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional member and extending along the length of the catheter portion, the restraining wires being retractable from a location outside the body vessel to collapse the directional member.

9. (Original) The filtering device of claim 8, wherein:

the restraining wires are retractable to draw at least the inlet opening of the directional member into the sheath of the catheter portion.

10. (Withdrawn) A method of passing a fluid in a vessel while blocking the passage through the vessel of emboli created from a lesion in the vessel, comprising the steps of:

disposing in the vessel, at a position past the lesion in the direction of the fluid flow in the vessel, a filtering device having a filtering assembly having a filtering

member made from a material having properties of passing the fluid in the vessel while blocking the passage of the emboli in the vessel and having a directional member made from a material having properties of being deployable by the fluid flow in the vessel to be disposed against the wall of the vessel and of directing the passage of the fluid and the emboli in the vessel into the filtering member; and

disposing in the vessel, at the position of the lesion in the vessel, an interventional device for treating the lesion and opening the vessel at the position of the lesion.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10 further including the step of removing the filtering device with any trapped contained in the filtering member from the vessel after the interventional device has treated the lesion.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11 wherein the steps of removing the filtering member from the vessel is performed by collapsing the directional member and withdrawing at least a portion of the directional member into a sheath and removing both the sheath and filtering device from the vessel.

13. (Previously Presented) A filtering device for passing a fluid in a body vessel defined by a wall and for blocking the passage of particles through the body vessel, comprising:

a filtering portion including a directional member made from a pliable material having properties of blocking the passage of the fluid and the emboli and being expandable by the fluid flow in the vessel to maintain its outer periphery against the vessel wall to provide a seal against the passage of the fluid and the emboli through the pliable material, and

a filtering member attached to the directional member and made from a material which allows body fluid to pass through while blocking particles of a particular size, the directional member directing body fluid into the filtering member, the filtering member being expandable by the expansion of the directional member.

14. (Currently Amended) The filtering device of claim 13, further including:

a catheter having a shaft which is attached to the filtering member, wherein the directional member has an inlet opening and the catheter includes a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional member and extending along the length of the catheter, the restraining wires being retractable from a location outside [he] the body vessel to collapse the directional member.

15. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 13, further including:

a catheter portion having a shaft, wherein the shaft extends through the filtering portion and is attached to the filtering member.

16. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 15, wherein the directional member is disposed at an acute angle relative to the vessel wall and the shaft has a distal end which contacts the filtering member, the angle of the directional member to the vessel wall being changeably by the location of distal end of the shaft relative to the directional member.

17. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 16, wherein longitudinal positioning of the distal end of the shaft relative to the directional member regulates the angle that the directional member makes with the vessel wall.

18. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 15, wherein: the catheter portion includes an outer sheath which covers the filtering portion until the filtering portion is to be deployed, the filtering portion being at least partially retractable into the sheath after the filtering portion traps and collects particles in the body vessel.

19. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 15, wherein: the directional member has an inlet opening and the catheter portion includes a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional

member and extending along the length of the catheter portion, the restraining wires being retractable from a location outside the body vessel to collapse the directional member.

20. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 19, wherein:

the restraining wires are retractable to draw at least the inlet opening of the directional member into the sheath of the catheter portion.

(Please add the following new claims:)

21. (New) A filtering device for passing a fluid in a body vessel defined by a wall and for blocking the passage of particles through the body vessel, comprising:

a filtering portion including a conical-shaped directional member made from a fluid impermeable, pliable material which is expandable by the fluid flow in the body vessel to maintain the outer periphery of the directional member against the vessel wall and to provide a seal against the passage of the fluid and the emboli through the directional member, the directional member having an inlet opening to receive fluid flow therethrough and an outlet opening to allow fluid to pass therethrough; and

a filtering member attached to the directional member and made from a material which allows body fluid to pass through while blocking particles of a particular size, the directional member directing body fluid into the outlet opening and through the filtering member.

22. (New) The filtering device of claim 13, further including:

a catheter having a shaft attached to the filtering member and including a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional member and extending along the length of the catheter, the restraining wires being movable from a location outside the body vessel to help collapse the directional member when the directional member is in an expanded position.
